

--Claim 49. The apparatus of Claim 36, wherein said focusing apparatus includes elements for modifying said collimated light so as to improve the quality or sharpness of said focal point or focal plane.--

*D1
cont.* --Claim 50. The apparatus of Claim 42, wherein the light source means includes means for producing a collimated light beam; and

wherein the light source means includes focusing means for focusing the collimated light beam to a confocal region located with tissue at a point below the tissue surface.--

--Claim 51. The apparatus of Claim 50, wherein said focusing means includes means for modifying said collimated light beam so as to improve the quality of sharpness of said confocal region.--

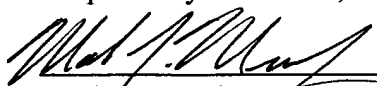
REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is to add additional claims to further the scope of protection of this application. If any additional fee is required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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